

# opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • February 2010

## Book Recounts Marton's Family Journey to America

### EVENT PREVIEW: FEBRUARY 17

by Sonya K. Fry

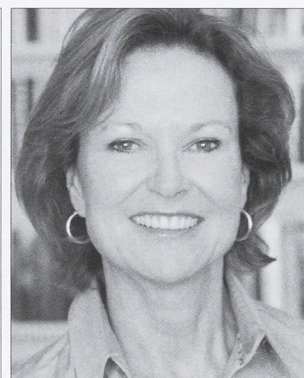
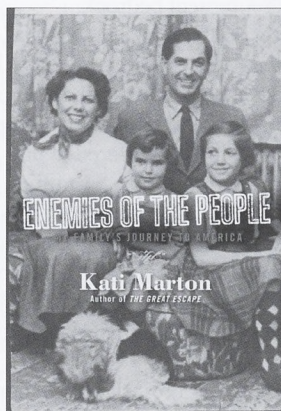
Kati Marton emigrated from Hungary as a child in 1957, but it wasn't until she began to delve into the newly opened files of the Hungarian secret police (AVO) that she began to piece together the incredible real-life spy story that was her family's history. The result of her research is *Enemies of the People: My Family's Journey to America* [Simon & Schuster]. Her father Endre and mother Ilona had survived World War II under Hungary's pro-Nazi regime by downplaying their Jewish backgrounds and relying on the help of well-connected friends. After the war, the Martons resumed their lives in Budapest's glittering café society, mixing with intellectuals, diplomats and opera singers. They openly flaunted their pro-Western ideas and tastes, most notably driving around Budapest in a white Studebaker convertible.

As the Cold War intensified, however, their lifestyle, jobs and political ideas were bound to make them targets of an increasingly paranoid Hungarian Communist regime. Both parents, Endre and Ilona, were the last independent journalists behind the Iron Curtain, working for the Associated Press and the United Press International respectively, when they were declared "enemies of the people" and imprisoned by the Communist regime.

As Kati researched her family history for this book she learned that her parents were under total surveillance for twenty years. Even her revered French nanny was an active agent of AVO. The files revealed terrifying truths: secret love affairs, betrayals inside the family circle, attempted suicides and torture as well as acts of stunning courage.

With the efforts of their friends in the journalistic and diplomatic communities and a temporary thaw in East-West relations after the death of Joseph Stalin, Ilona and Endre were abruptly released from prison. Marton movingly describes the joyous family reunion and how her family was immediately swept up in the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. After the failure of the Revolution, the Martons realized that they must flee their beloved Hungary.

They emigrated to the U.S. and received a hero's welcome. Endre Marton received a special George Polk Award and in 1957 he was given the OPC's President's Award for his dispatches from Eastern Europe which were virtually the only journalistic link to the outside world.



Kati Marton

At the OPC's 1999 awards dinner when Richard Holbrooke (Kati Marton's husband) was the keynote speaker he invited his father-in-law to attend the dinner as his guest. What Marton did not know was that the OPC and Holbrooke had arranged to surprise him with a duplicate OPC President's Award which had been lost in the journey between Hungary and America.

Marton has written six books. She worked for ABC News as a foreign correspondent, reported for NPR and is on the Board of the CPJ. The Book Night, co-sponsored by the OPC and the Newswomen's Club of New York, will begin with a reception at 6 p.m. followed by a talk at 6:30 p.m.

## 2009 Exerted a High Toll on Journalists

### OPINION

by Jeremy Main

Even without the massacre of 30 Philippine journalists and 27 others in Maguindanao in November, 2009 would have been a dreadful year for journalists around the world.

By the count of the Committee to Protect Journalists, 70 news people were killed because of their work, a record. Reporters Without Borders put the num-

ber at 76. The number of journalists held in jail jumped to 136, according to CPJ (to 169 according to RSF's count). Far greater numbers of journalists were threatened, beaten or forced into exile.

The crackdown on reporters after Iran's fraudulent elections put Iran at the head of the list of the worst offenders against freedom of the press. The case of Iran is unique. Not only did the govern-

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# Reader's Digest Retirees Bear the Brunt of Chapter 11

## OPINION

by Lawrence Elliott

I was a *Reader's Digest* writer for 48 years. Except for DeWitt and Lila Wallace, the founders, my name was on the magazine's masthead longer than anyone in its history. But when the *Digest* went into Chapter 11 bankruptcy last summer, the supplemental pension I had been granted "in recognition of your editorial contribution and dedication" was summarily discontinued. Some 300 others, including writers, editors, ad salesmen and widows were similarly stripped of a retirement bedrock.

The retirees organized in a last ditch effort to save what, for many, were an essential part of their retirement fund, citing hardship and charging unfair treatment compared with the millions paid to other creditors and in payments and bonuses to company executives. Reader's Digest Association had offered to pay 3.5 cents for every dollar owed them, and to set up a \$1 million fund for "hardship cases." Despite a determined effort by retirees, the company won bankruptcy court approval of its reorganization plan to cut its debt by 75 percent, in part by shedding pensions. In his January ruling, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Robert Drain held that what is "fair" in the colloquial sense of the word is different from what is "fair" in the legal sense.

In this fragile economy, others in our profession will continue to be hard hit. The difference here is that *Reader's Digest* has been hurt less by bad business than by a business strategy gone off the rails. In 2006, when Ripplewood Holdings, a private equity firm, took over the *Digest*, they put up in cold cash only a fraction of the buying price. The rest, \$2.2 billion in debt, they loaded onto the company's back. This is a well-trod path to riches for the top ranks, yielding swollen bonuses, salaries, management fees. Court records show that \$23 million was distributed to top executives just before the Chapter 11 filing. But as can also happen, the huge debt will drive a company into the ground.

It left the *Reader's Digest*'s balance sheet in shambles.

*Digest* retirees, many now in their 80s, have banded together

to make their plight known; some have told their stories in the press. All are full of fear for a future suddenly darkened by the loss of between 30 and 80% of income which they had been promised would be theirs for life. What we are currently offered is less than four cents on the dollar, in my case, \$44 a month in place of \$1259. How, then, can it pay its current executives multi-million dollar salaries (Mary Berner, the *Digest*'s CEO, earns \$125,000 a month in base salary alone, plus handsome bonuses).

I spent most of my *Digest* time, 37 years, overseas as a European correspondent. It was fun while it lasted, but far from the expatriate life of luxury. Until this year, my wife and I drove a 1994 Volvo; we'd be driving it still if I'd known in June that I was going to lose a critical part of my pension in August. Since retirement, we have lived solely on the pension and Social Security benefits. The decline of the dollar has made things difficult for us and our savings are meager. But I am 86 years old, too late for us to start a new life in America.

I know that others on whom this hurt has fallen have sorrier stories. But what everyone of us who helped make *Reader's Digest* a byword around the world now share is the hit-in-the-heart realization that we are being asked to pay for the damage done to our company by the very people who brought it to ruin.

The Wallaces were open, generous, almost as much friends as employers. When I first became a "regular," Wally asked me to drive down for a chat and we sat in his corner office, \$3 or \$4 multi-million dollar paintings on the walls and he asked me about myself and my family and pretty soon the morning had sped by and he asked me if I was free for lunch. There was never a question then of what it might cost to go to Baffin Island in northernmost Canada to write a story about the Eskimo artists there or to hire interpreters to see me through the Soviet Union in preparation for interviews for a story on Brezhnev. Those were the days.

*Lawrence Elliott is an OPC member and lives in Luxembourg. You can post comments in response to this and other articles at [www.opcofamerica.org](http://www.opcofamerica.org).*

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# Ignore Kinsley: Keep the Stories Long, But Write Them Well

## OPINION

by Michael O. Allen

Michael Kinsley must have embarked on his media criticism piece in the current (January/February 2010) issue of *The Atlantic* bereft of ideas for a column, right after stubbing a toe.

How else does one explain this curious piece? His thesis:

ONE REASON SEEKERS of news are abandoning print newspapers for the Internet ... [is] that newspaper articles are too long. On the Internet, news articles get to the point. Newspaper writing, by contrast, is encrusted with conventions that don't add to your understanding of the news.

*Really?* Write it short and readers would come flooding back to newspapers and magazines? Pity then all those misguided publishers running around like chickens with their heads cut off in search of new platforms to peddle their wares.

By all means, get rid of slipshod, encrusted and encumbered conventional political writing (even as I needlessly encumber my sentence). Does doing this necessarily lead to shorter news stories? Shorn of the "conventions that don't add to your understanding of the news," you could, conceivably, write newspaper articles twice or three times as long as the offending *New York Times* and *Washington Post* pieces that Mr. Kinsley cited. Would they then be the right length? Mr. Kinsley's critique of bad writing is nit-picky and picayune but valid. His conclusion about the length of newspaper articles being too long is wrong.

Kinsley's piece is that it is so uncalled for: Cut out the fat, the encrustation, the conventions? Yes, yes, yes. It does not mean that writing short would suddenly bring readers who fled to the safe harbor of short writing on the Internet back to newspapers.

I'm a news junkie, if not an outright news geek. I love newspapers. Some of the best writing I've read is in newspapers and includes *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, and *The Washington Post*, and have been very long articles (along with pearly short ones).

The examples are too numerous to name so I'll focus on the estimable Robert D. McFadden at *The Times* who wrote a brilliant opening to his "Prisoner of Rage" profile of the Unabomber that ran in May 1996. That piece surely failed the reactionary dictum to write short. It weighed in at nearly 16,000 words.

I am not advocating that every story in every newspaper run that long, but the fact is, most newspapers don't run many long stories anymore. If Mr. McFadden still prowls the halls of the *Times*, he certainly is not writing articles like this anymore.

If Mr. Kinsley wants to fault the *Times* for anything at all, it should be for putting out an ambition-less newspaper that is a pale imitation of gray lady's tradition of excellence. It is hard to believe that Bill Keller is running this *New York Times*. Mr. Keller, in the proud lineage of great *Times* foreign correspondents, wrote big stories about big events and won big prizes for his reporting. When he ascended to the top at the *Times*, he had truly earned it. But even with the economic battering and the seismic shift in the news industry business model, who would have expected that Keller's *Times* would be so small?

Lost in the hoopla over David Rohde's excellent memoir published in the *Times* of his captivity and eventually daring escape and rescue in Pakistan is that Rohde was not on assignment for the *Times* when he was captured, but on leave working on a book project.

Increasingly, the best writing of the *Times* staff are not found in the pages of the newspaper, but between the covers of books. It's not that *Times*' correspondents didn't historically write books, they always have, but those books grew out of work that first appeared in the newspaper.

Let me tackle last Mr. Kinsley's opening clause — "One reason seekers of news are abandoning print newspapers for the Internet ... ." I know it is en vogue to cry a river about the bad moon rising over print media, but the print sector of the news media is not nearly as imperiled as many are wont to believe.

People more knowledgeable than me will argue that, indeed, it is. But what I know deep in my bones is that news gathering will thrive in the new age, whatever platform emerges.

Mr. Kinsley's admonition to "write short" is one that is beaten into every journalism student and cub reporter every single day that they bore the crucible of being called journalists or news reporters.

Then, the Gannett Company went further with *USA Today*, creating a more visual, graphic newspaper. With space finite, stories had to be short to accommodate all the graphics. Gannett and *USA Today* were particularly pernicious with their proselytizing about shorter stories. The general effects were vapid and vacuous newspapers across the land, first at Gannett, then virtually every news outlet went further and further in removing substance and replacing it with flash. By the time *USA Today* saw religion and began running enterprise pieces and longer articles that jump off its front pages, the damage was already done.

Other trends followed. For instance, "regional coverage" replaced local coverage. If a particular issue affected only one town, it'll be displaced in the paper by stories that affect a number of towns. Then papers dispensed with covering their local community altogether. They stupidly killed the geese that laid so many golden eggs in pursuit of ever larger quarterly profit margins. The ultimate effect is the hollowing out of the "product" to the point of imperiling the very industry.

The Internet has democratized somewhat the apparatus of gathering news and the means of disseminating it. Good writing, long or short, will be read anywhere you put it, whether on scroll, processed trees, or on glass surfaces.



Michael Kinsley

Michael O. Allen writes regularly for the OPC blog. You can post comments in response to this and other articles at [www.opcofamerica.org](http://www.opcofamerica.org).



# OPC Holiday Party ❄️

**T**he OPC Holiday Party had 65 members in attendance to welcome the new year and see one of the final days of the famed Christmas tree in Rockefeller Center.

Guests were treated to a table of appetizers, an open bar and a turkey buffet that included all the trimmings. Of note this year was a mashed potato martini: mashed potatoes were scooped into martini glasses and members and their guests could choose toppings ranging from bacon to sour cream.

We toasted OPC member George Bookman who sat at the head of his table to celebrate his 95th birthday.

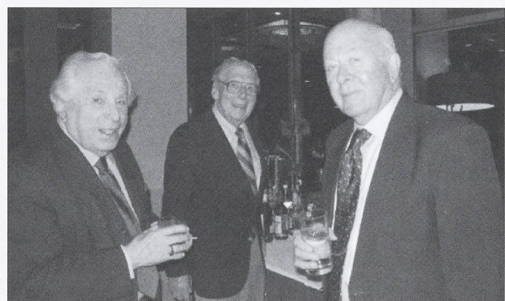
Raffle tickets were sold as a fundraiser to the Club and a dozen bottles of vodka distributed to six lucky ticket holders. The event was held from 6 to 9 p.m. on January 5 at the Rockefeller Center Club Quarters at 25 West 51 Street.

— Aimee Rinehart



Sonya Fry

From left: OPC President Allan Dodds Frank, Wynn Laffey and OPC member Pam Howard, OPC Board member David Andelman



Sonya Fry

From left: OPC members Seymour Topping, Roy Rowan and Jeremy Main



Aimee Rinehart

From left: Arlene Getz, Bill Holstein and Michael Serrill



Aimee Rinehart

From left: Minky Worden, Sonya Fry, Emma Daly, Allan Dodds Frank and Peter Huvos



Party organizers and greeters from left: Sonya Fry, Jane Reilly, Aimee Rinehart and Boots Duque



Aimee Rinehart

OPC member George Bookman celebrates his 95th birthday at the head of the table.





## PEOPLE... with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

**KILLINGS:** At least 68 journalists worldwide were killed in 2009 for their work, the highest annual death toll documented by the Committee to Protect Journalists. The previous record was 67 killed in 2007. (See page 1 for Jeremy Main's response to this news.) Leading the deaths last year was the Philippines. Iraq led in 2007. At year's end, the Committee was investigating 20 other journalist deaths to determine whether they were work related. "Most of the victims were local reporters covering news in their own communities," **Joel Simon**, CPJ executive director, said in a statement. Counting deaths in accidents and deaths of support staffs, the International News Safety Institute said last year's death toll reached more than 130.

**Andis Hadjicostis**, 41, CEO of the family-controlled Dias media group and founder of Sigma TV, was killed by unknown assailants the evening of January 11 when he left his home in Nicosia, Cyprus. The Dias media group includes newspapers, magazines and radio stations.

British correspondent **Rupert Hamer**, 39, and a U.S. Marine were killed January 9 when their vehicle struck a roadside bomb northwest of Nawa, Afghanistan. It was the second time in less than two weeks that a Western journalist had been killed on an embedded assignment in Afghanistan. Hamer was the military correspondent for *The Sunday Mirror* newspaper.

After leaving his office in Saltillo, Mexico the night of January 7, **Valentines Valdés Espinosa**, a journalist with the newspaper *Zócalo Saltillo*, was forced out of his car, kidnapped and fatally shot several times. Unidentified assailants in two vans stopped his car



Rupert Hamer



Valdés Espinosa

and forced him and two colleagues riding with him out of the car. One colleague escaped, but the captors beat the other colleague severely before releasing him. Espinosa's body was dumped outside a motel with a note addressed to "everyone" warning that "this will happen to anybody who does not understand." The Coahuila state attorney general's office said the journalists probably were attacked by drug gangs.

**Bobi Tsankov**, 30, a Bulgarian radio journalist and author of a book on Bulgaria's gangsters, was shot and killed by unknown assailants in downtown Sofia in a daylight attack January 5. Two other men were wounded.



Bobi Tsankov

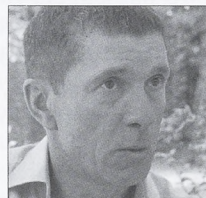
**Michelle Lang**, 34, a Canadian reporter for the *Calgary Herald* and Canwest News Service, was killed in Afghanistan near Kandahar city December 30 when the vehicle in which she was riding with a Canadian convoy was hit by a roadside bomb. Four Canadian soldiers in the vehicle also were killed and four other soldiers and a civilian were injured. Her death was the first for a Canadian journalist in Afghanistan. Last year, Michelle won a Canadian National Newspaper Award as the top beat writer in Canada.

Indian freelance photojournalist **Aman Kashyap** was killed December 30 when he was run over by a train in Ghaziabad, an Indian industrial city, while taking pictures in a fog of rail services.

A suicide bomber donated explosives outside the Press Club in Peshawar, Pakistan December 22, killing two policemen and a passerby and wounding at least 17 people. "The bomber wanted to get into the Press Club and, when our police guard stopped him, he blew himself up," Police Chief Liaqat Ali Khan told Reuters.

Kyrgyz journalist **Gennady Pavlyuk**, 40, died December 22 in an Almaty, Kazakhstan hospital from injuries sustained December 16 when he was thrown

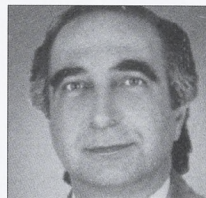
from a window of a sixth-floor apartment. He was found unconscious with duct tape binding his feet and hands and remained in a coma until his death.



Gennady Pavlyuk

A critic of the Kyrgyz government, Pavlyuk was on a business trip to Almaty from his home in neighboring Kyrgyzstan. He arrived in Almaty December 16, checked into a hotel and left with an unidentified man. Two hours later, Pavlyuk was pushed out the window of an apartment. He was a former editor of the Kyrgyz edition of the Russian weekly *Argumenty i Fakty*, later editor of the Kyrgyz edition of *Komsomolskaya Pravda* and a contributor to the independent newspaper *Bely Parokhod*. Opposition politicians in Kyrgyzstan blamed the Kyrgyz government for the killing, but the government denied involvement.

**Cihan Hayirsevener**, 53, editor-in-chief of the western Turkish newspaper Güney Marmara'da Yasam (Life in Southern Marmara) was ambushed and shot by an unknown assailant while leaving his office in Bandirma the afternoon of December 18. He was shot three times in the leg while walking on an avenue. One bullet hit an artery in his left leg, and he died that night in a hospital of massive blood loss.



Cihan Hayirsevener

**Jose Givonaldo Vieira**, owner of the Brazilian newspaper *Folha do Agreste* and host of a cultural program on Rádio Bezerros FM, was fatally shot December 14. When he arrived for work at the radio station, three unidentified men intercepted his car. One of the men approached Vieira, who rolled down his window to offer assistance. The gunman then shot him in the neck and chest.

Also in December, Catherine Nicolle

(Continued on Page 6)



(Continued From Page 5)

Rodriguez, the 16-year-old pregnant daughter of Honduran television and radio commentator **Karol Cabrera**, was shot dead in Tegucigalpa by two men on a motorcycle while driving her mother's car. Two passengers riding with her were wounded. The girl was eight months pregnant, and her baby son was saved. Cabrera, her mother, has backed the government brought to power in the June 2009 coup.

**VIOLENCE:** While he was driving home January 7, radio commentator **Eugene Paet** was wounded when two unidentified men on a motorcycle shot him twice with a .45 revolver near Bantay police station in the northern Philippine province of Ilocos Sur. Paet hosts a talk show on DWRS Commando Radio in which he often is critical of corruption.

Unknown assailants ransacked and torched the Garifuna-language radio station Faluma Bimetu in Triunfo de la Cruz, Honduras on January 6, putting it off the air. The attackers stole the station's main computer before setting the fire, station manager **Alfredo López** said. The station has been threatened often because of its opposition to last June's coup d'état and to real estate projects in its Afro-Caribbean region.

Armed with an ax and a knife and shouting "revenge" and "blood," a 28-year-old Somali man tried to smash through a reinforced bathroom door in the home of Danish cartoonist **Kurt Westergaard** in Aarhus, Denmark shortly after 10 p.m. on January 1. Hiding inside the bathroom was the cartoonist, 74, and his 5-year-old granddaughter, the only people in the house. Failing to break through the door, the assailant abandoned his attack



**Kurt Westergaard**

just as two police cars arrived. When he threw the ax at a police officer, the police opened fire, wounding him in the knee and hand and arresting him. The assailant, Muhudiin Mohamed Geele, was charged with two counts of attempted homicide. In 2005, the cartoonist touched off world wide Muslim outrage and riots with his published newspaper drawings of the Prophet Muhammad, one with a turban shaped like a bomb with a lit fuse burning.

Police said assailant had ties with the Somali terrorist group Al Shabab and Al Qaeda and they were trying to kill him.

Two journalists were editing their television crime show in Carajás, southern Brazil December 11 when two unidentified men on a motorbike shot at them, wounding one reporter and striking one of the program's vehicles. **Rita de Cássia dos Santos**, producer of the crime program "Campo Mourao Urgente," said the assailants were local drug traffickers attempting to intimidate the reporter.

**JAILED:** The Committee to Protect Journalists reported that 136 reporters, editors and photojournalists, nearly half of them freelancers, were in jail worldwide last December 1, an increase of 11 from 2008. China led the imprisonments with 24 journalists behind bars followed by Iran 23 jailed, Cuba 22, Eritrea 19, Burma 9, Uzbekistan 7 and Azerbaijan 6 among the 26 nations that have imprisoned journalists. Jailed are at least 60 freelance journalists who publish on the Internet or who work for news organizations that cut costs by using freelancers for international coverage rather than staffers. "The days when journalists went off on dangerous assignments knowing they had the full institutional weight of their media organizations behind them are receding into history," CPJ Executive Director **Joel Simon** said in a statement. "Today, journalists on the front lines are increasingly working independently. The rise of online journalism has opened the door to a new generation of reporters, but it also means they are vulnerable."

In Peru, **Alejandro Carrascal Carrasco**, editor of the Bagua-based weekly *Nor Oriente*, was sentenced to one year in prison January 12 for "aggravated defamation." Carrasco had criticized local officials following last year's violent clashes near Bagua between indigenous protestors and security forces that left dozens of people dead.

**ADEN, Yemen:** Editor and publisher of the independent daily *Al-Ayyam*, **Hisham Bashraheel**, was arrested January 6 following clashes between police and the newspaper's armed guards in which a policeman and a guard were killed and several people injured. Government officials said 40 armed members of an Al-Queda-linked movement were in the newspaper office and that

Bashraheel will stand trial for his role in an alleged 2008 murder in front of the newspaper's offices. But the International Press Institute said in a written statement that the arrest "has reinforced concerns that Yemen's high-profile crackdown on militants is being used as a pretext to further suppress press freedom."

**BEIJING:** **Li Junqi**, Hebei bureau chief of *Farmers' Daily*, was sentenced in January to 16 years in prison for accepting bribes to cover up a coal mine disaster just before the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Mine officials in the northern China province of Hebei were accused of moving bodies, destroying evidence and paying journalists the equivalent of U.S. \$380,000 not to report the explosion that killed 34 miners and a rescue worker. Li was believed to be the first of 10 journalists to be sentenced in the case.

**COLOMBO:** **J. S. Tissainayagam**, Tamil editor of the *North Eastern Monthly* magazine, was released from jail in January on \$500 bail, pending appeal from his 20-year sentence. Tissainayagam, also a columnist for the *Sunday Times* in Colombo, was sentenced last year for criticizing the Sri Lanka government's handling of an offensive against Tamil Tiger militants.

**FAIRFIELD, Connecticut:** The "People" columnist will mark his 90th birthday this spring. He has seen the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl, World War II in the Dutch East Indies and the Philippines, the Korean War on the Western front, Taiwan's last surrender of an offshore island group to Communist China, beginnings of the Vietnam War, Japan's development into a world economic power, and China's opening to Western newsmen, diplomats, businessmen and tourists. He commented, "It's a great life being a foreign correspondent."

**HONG KONG:** In an e-mail to the "People" columnist, **Vernon Ram**, a longtime freelancer in Hong Kong, reminds us that the new Chinese New Year, Tet in Vietnam, is "the Year of The Tiger, not Tiger Woods."



**Hugh van Es**, who died last May, has been memorialized near where he spent



many hours. A portrait of the photojournalist has been hung near the bar at the Foreign Correspondents' Club where Hugh drank, swapped stories and argued for hours with friends and foes. A former president of the Club, van Es shot the photo that recorded for all times America's retreat from the Vietnam War—refugees climbing a ladder into a helicopter atop a Saigon building on the day the Communists captured the city.

**NEW YORK:** Two weeks after its old owners closed *Editor & Publisher*, the magazine resumed publication in February under new owners. It was sold by Nielsen Business Media to Duncan McIntosh Co., Inc., a magazine and newspaper publisher based in Irvine, California. **Duncan McIntosh**, said, "Such a critical information source for a newspaper industry so desperately in need of help should not go away. I've been a reader of *E&P* over the course of 30 years and know its incredible value to readers and advertisers." **Charles McKeown** continues as *E&P* publisher, but dropped were editor **Greg Mitchell** and well-known reporter **Joe Strupp**. The new editor is **Mark Fitzgerald**, a 26-year veteran of the magazine and most recently its editor-at-large.



Deogun, on the left, listens to his soon-to-be former colleagues' serenades.

OPC board member **Nikhil Deogun** has left *The Wall Street Journal*, where he was international editor during 15 years with the paper, and in February became managing editor of CNBC. "A new adventure," he called it. He succeeded **Tyler Mathnisen**, who became the cable network's vice president for strategic editorial initiatives and a permanent anchor for "Power Lunch." Executives at News Corporation, owners of the *WSJ*, tried to persuade Deogun to remain, people close to the parties said.



From left: Sonya Fry, Helen Thomas and Edie Lederer

OPC member **Helen Thomas** won two awards in November, and OPC Executive Director **Sonya K. Fry**, attended both events. On November 9, Helen received the Gaudium Award from the Breukelein Institute which grew out of the Catholic Oratory community of St. Boniface. The Institute raises money to benefit the homeless, education and the arts in Brooklyn. On November 12, Helen, White House correspondent for Hearst Newspapers, received the Newswomen's Club inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award.

CNN international correspondent **Christiane Amanpour**, an OPC member, received the Reporter of the Year Award. The ceremony and dinner were held at the Downtown Association. OPC Board member **Toni Reinhold** of Reuters is President of the Newswomen's Club of New York which was founded in 1922.

The New York Court of Appeals on January 12 turned down OPC member **Dan Rather's** request for an appeal in his lawsuit against CBS, marking an apparent end to his breach-of-contract case. The former CBS News anchor had been seeking \$70 million in damages, claiming his contract had been broken and his reputation tarnished by the way the network investigated his report on President Bush's National Guard record during the Vietnam War. The New York State Supreme Court

ruled unanimously last September to dismiss the lawsuit that he brought in 2007.

**Sally Buzbee**, AP's Middle East editor, was promoted to deputy managing editor for the AP News Center in New York City in January. While based in Cairo, Buzbee, 44, was in charge of the wire service operations in 16 countries. She led coverage of the 2006 Hezbollah-Israel War, the Darfur crisis and the growing activity of terrorist cells.

An early OPC member and author of *Guadalcanal Diary*, a 1943 World War II best seller, the late **Richard Tregaskis**, was one of 12 persons fea-



Richard Tregaskis

(Continued on Page 8)

## Palmer's Doc Picked for Big Sky Festival



OPC member **Brian Palmer** spent five years making "Full Disclosure," a documentary about U.S. Marines in Iraq, and the film was chosen for the feature competition at the Big Sky Film Festival in Missoula, Montana.

Palmer, who accompanied young Marines on dozens of missions during three embodiments between 2004 and 2006, commented, "Full Disclosure captures the consistent, sometimes benign, but often tragic miscommunication between U.S. troops and vulnerable Iraqi citizens. Amid the inexorable and destructive momentum of the occupation, the documentary explores the consequences of our inability to speak with and understand those whose country we occupy. It exposes the gap between what we think we're doing in Iraq and what we're actually doing."

Just before leaving for Bangladesh on a Nation Institute reporting grant to help set up a media-training school, he wrote in an e-mail "After the five-year slog it took to produce and finish the doc, this is pretty thrilling."



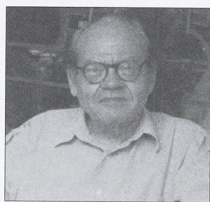
(Continued From Page 7)

tured last November in the History Channel series "WWII in HD." The profile told how he relearned to speak and write after suffering shrapnel wounds in his brain during the fighting in Sicily. He went on to cover the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Tregaskis died in 1973. His widow **Moana McGlaughlin-Tregaskis** wrote in a letter from her home in Honolulu, "It was a superb series...a great Christmas present."



The voice of **Walter Cronkite** has been silenced at CBS News. Since his death last July 17, Walter's voice continued to introduce **Katie Couric's** CBS Evening News. But on January 4, Walter's voice was replaced by a voiceover from actor **Morgan Freeman**. CBS News and Sports President **Sean McManus**, said, "As comforting as it is to look back on the great career that Walter had, we're looking forward now and we just felt it was the right time to make the move that at some point had to be made."

**PHNOM PENH:** Former foreign correspondent **Bernie Krisher**, who has raised money around the world to build 500 schools in Cambodia's poorest villages, now is expanding his publishing of Western books in Khmer. Many years ago, **J. K. Rowling** granted Krisher permission to publish a translation of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* without an advance or royalties. The book is almost sold out, and Krisher now has obtained Rowling's permission to publish *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Free rights to translate and publish also have been granted by **Greg Mortenson** for his *Three Cups of Tea*, a short biography of Abraham Lincoln by **Thomas Kenelly**, and Vietnam War correspondent **Elizabeth Becker's** *Letters of Bophana*, a survivor of Khmer Rouge violence. Sometimes called the Anne Frank of Cambodia, Hout Hout Bophana is known for the letters and confessions she wrote before her torture. Krisher also will publish a translation of **Franz Kafka's** *The*



Bernie Krisher

*Trial*, which Krisher wrote "should be a big hit as Cambodian society is cursed with injustices and legal hurdles."

Krisher's charity work was mentioned in the 2009 book *Half the Sky* by OPC member **Nicholas Kristof** and his wife **Sheryl WuDunn**, both of *The New York Times*. In a year-end letter, Bernie wrote that mentioning him in that book "resulted in a plethora of unsolicited donations flooding in from all over the world to support our programs in motivating girls to go to school, providing scholarships to poor children and supporting our orphanage."

Krisher, 78, a former Tokyo-based correspondent for *Newsweek* and then *Fortune*, has established several businesses in Phnom Penh whose profits finance orphanages and other humanitarian projects he has founded in Cambodia. These businesses include production of paper shopping and wine bags that are sold in supermarkets in the United States and Japan, silk scarves and ties marketed through the Internet and growing vegetables that are sold to Cambodian restaurants and hotels. Bernie has provided internships at his English and Khmer-language *Cambodia Daily* to OPC Foundation scholarship winners.



Photo by Tequila Minsky.

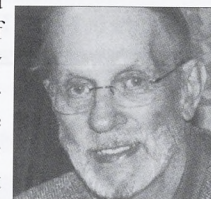
**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti:** Being at the right place when it happens. **Tequila Minsky**, a freelance photographer based in New York City, was staying at the Hotel Oloffson in Port-au-Prince January 12 when the devastating earthquake struck. Her photograph of wreckage was published the next day on *The New York Times* front page. Two AP staffers, reporter **Jonathan M. Katz** and videographer **Pierre Richard Luxama**, also reported from Haiti on the day of the quake. Then they flooded in: more TV anchors, broadcast reporters and print writers than Haiti probably has ever seen at one time.

Katz, 29, was the only full-time U.S.

journalist based in Haiti when the earthquake struck. He was posted to Haiti two years ago and learned Creole. The house in the mountains overlooking Port-au-Prince where he lived and worked was left in ruins by the quake. Earlier Katz reported for AP from Jerusalem and the Dominican Republic.

**PYONGYANG:** North Korean leader Kim Jong-il has presented an award and special leave to two soldiers for detaining TV journalists **Laura Ling** and **Euna Lee** on the North Korean-China border last March. The soldiers appeared on a state television program in December commemorating Kim's 18th year of rule. The two Americans were sentenced to 12 years of hard labor for trespassing and "hostile acts" against North Korea but pardoned after former President Bill Clinton intervened.

**SAN DIEGO:** The *Stars and Stripes Association News* resumed publication last October after a one-year search for a new editor. **Joe Schneider**, who worked for both the Pacific and European editions of the U.S. military newspaper, volunteered to become editor of the *News* that circulates to past and present S&S staffers and friends of the paper.



Joe Schneider

**SHANGHAI:** **Hu Shuli**, 56, who resigned in November from the business magazine *Caijing* under government pressure, was appointed editor of the new magazine *Century Weekly* in December. Remade from *The News*, a magazine published on Hainan island by the China Institute for Reform and Development, *Century Weekly* published its first issue in January with a cover story on inflation in China. When she was editor of *Caijing*, the magazine investigated government corruption and corporate fraud.

**Bob Dowling**, a former OPC board member and former *BusinessWeek* managing editor, has joined Hu in launching *China 2010*, an annual Chinese-English magazine that will publish articles by Chinese and Western journalists, academics and researchers. He edited *China 2007* and *2008*. Dowling is a visiting professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing.



**TEHRAN:** **Bahman Ahmadi Amoui**, an editor for the economic newspaper *Sarmahey*, was sentenced in January to seven years and four months in jail plus 34 lashes. He was arrested in June during an Iranian government crackdown on critical journalists following the disputed June re-election of Iran's president. The newspaper was closed in November.

**TULSA:** The January issue of the *Petroleum Club Newsletter* reprinted under a banner headline the *OPC Bulletin* item about **Laurette Heger** and how she became pastry chef at the Tulsa club after writing *Saigon Is Burning*, a memoir of her childhood in Vietnam during Japan's World War II occupation. When this columnist asked Laurette if members of the Petroleum Club are wealthy, she replied yes.

**WASHINGTON:** **Alan Bjerga**, a Bloomberg News correspondent, was elected the 103rd president of the National Press Club last December, and he took office in January for a one-year term. He succeeded *USA Today* reporter **Donna Leinwand**. Bjerga, 36, was the Club's vice president and had served as treasurer. "Journalists are communicating in new ways even as pressures on news organizations increase," he said. "What hasn't changed is journalism's importance." Bjerga, who grew up on a Minnesota farm, covers agricultural policy. His reporting on famine in Ethiopia and U.S. food aid shared an OPC Malcolm Forbes Award for best business reporting from abroad last year. He also won 2009 awards from the New York Press Club, the Society of American Business Editors and Writers, and the North American Agricultural Journalists. Founded in 1908, the National Press Club has 3,500 members in Washington and worldwide.

#### WEDDING

**Suzanne Nam**, 35, a contributing editor for *Forbes* magazine in Bangkok, and **John W. Brown**, 41, who works in Kabul for the U.S. Agency for International Development, were married January 9 at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia. The couple exchanged vows under a Pennsylvania law that allows couples to marry without an officiant. Nam, who received a law degree from Boston College and a master's in journalism from Columbia

University, is the author of two travel books on Thailand. Suzanne and John worked in Boston and then in London at the same time, but they did not meet until 2006 when they attended a hangout for expatriates and journalists in Bangkok "and we just started talking about books," Suzanne told *The New York Times*.

#### PEOPLE REMEMBERED

**Michael T. Kaufman**, 71, a world-ranging foreign correspondent during 40 years with *The New York Times*, died of pancreatic cancer January 15 in a New York City hospital. Bureau chief in Africa, India, Canada and Poland, Kaufman traveled with mercenaries in Rhodesia; covered wars in Angola, Zaire, Ethiopia and Afghanistan; befriended an Israeli secret agent; and documented the approaching end of communism in Poland. In the United States, he served as *Times* deputy foreign editor, Albany correspondent and columnist. He covered Woodstock, the radical underground movement, the Attica prison riot, campus rebellions and wrote seven books. Kaufman was born in Paris, the only child of Adam and Pauline Kaufman, Polish Jewish refugees. His father was an economist who had been imprisoned in Poland for nine years for his political activities. His mother was a teacher.

◆  
**Lillian O'Connell**, 86, a longtime editor of foreign dispatches, died January 12 in a Bethlehem, Pennsylvania hospital. She was a former Overseas Press editor and later a UPI international and foreign features editor in New York City. In retirement, she lived in Bethlehem.

◆  
**William Tuohy** was the ultimate war correspondent. During 29 years with *The Los Angeles Times*, he covered wars and conflicts in Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Northern Ireland, Iran and the Falkland Islands. He served as *The LA Times* bureau chief in Saigon, Beirut, Rome, Bonn and London. **Bob Gibson**, an OPC member, was *LA Times* foreign editor in 1966 when he hired Tuohy, then Saigon bureau chief for *Newsweek*. Gibson, who covered the Korean War for United Press, described Tuohy: "He was a great reporter, a wonderful writer, and he was steady on the ground. You could trust

his judgment. He covered everything. He was a 360-degree reporter."

His coverage of the Vietnam War won a 1969 Pulitzer Prize. Pulitzer judges noted that "few correspondents have seen and written more about the war in Vietnam than William Tuohy." In 1970 while he was bureau chief in Beirut, he won an OPC award for best reporting of foreign affairs. Tuohy appreciated style and fashion. When he was Rome bureau chief, he and another journalist commissioned Gucci to make cases for their lightweight typewriters.

After U.S. Navy service in the Pacific during World War II, Tuohy graduated from Northwestern University and joined *The San Francisco Chronicle*. He wrote three books: *Dangerous Company*, a memoir of his years as a war correspondent; *The Bravest Man: The Story of Richard O'Kane and U.S. Submariners in the Pacific War*; and *America's Fighting Admirals: Winning the War at Sea in World War II*.

William Tuohy died December 31 after open-heart surgery at St. John's Health Center in Santa Monica, California. He was 83. His widow, **Rose Marie Tuohy**, wrote in an e-mail to friends and colleagues that donations in Bill's memory may be given to a charity "or to the Overseas Press Club Foundation in New York City, where I would like to set up a William K. Tuohy Memorial Scholarship."

◆  
Longtime foreign correspondent and OPC member **Murray Fromson**, who reported alongside Tuohy in the United States and Vietnam, delivered a eulogy, concluding, "No actor, author or playwright ever captured the true life image of the dashing foreign correspondent. But then, they had never met Bill Tuohy."

◆  
**C. D. B. Bryan**, 73, whose 1976 book *Friendly Fire* became one of the enduring works of reporting on the Vietnam War, died of cancer December 15 at his home



(Continued on Page 11)



## 2009 Was a Particularly Bad Year for Journalists Around the Globe

(Continued From Page 1)

ment target the domestic press, it also virtually shut down the foreign press by arrest or expulsion. The Iranian journalist who continues to report honestly well knows that he or she will likely join the 30-plus journalists in jail and face at least beatings and harassment, if not a long prison sentence and a whipping.

On every continent, reporters faced appalling dangers and took extraordinary risks. The Mexican journalist who continues to report on crime and corruption knows he has a good chance of joining the 57 journalists murdered for their work there since 2000, 12 in 2009 alone. The Russian journalist who takes on the powers that be, whether political, criminal or commercial, may well face the fate of Olga Kotovskaya, who was tossed out of a 14-story window last year. The Chinese blogger who questions the government's actions is likely to face a long jail term; half of the 24 jailed Chinese journalists are "cyberdissidents."

### Habit of Impunity

The almost complete impunity enjoyed by criminals, terrorists and police who attack journalists adds to the feeling of hopelessness about the freedom of the press. Even the Philippine massacre may not result in any convictions as prosecutions there have a way of petering out; witnesses are silenced. Even those in witness-protection programs don't feel safe. More than two dozen murders in the Philippines remain unsolved. Of 16 killings of journalists in Russia in the last decade, only one has led to a conviction. Anna Politkovskaya was shot in the head in her building elevator in 2006 and her murder is still unsolved. In Mexico, the most dangerous place in this hemisphere for journalists, the drug lords – and the military and police – kill with impunity.

High rates of murder and impunity can be found in many other countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Nepal, Pakistan, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, to name the worst offenders listed by CPJ. In Iraq, where you would expect war casualties in the press, murder is by far the greater danger. Not one of the 88 murders of journalists in Iraq since the war began has been solved. Not one.

In Iraq, journalists may be safer than they were as the war winds down, but there's little reason to believe 2010 will be any better than 2009 in the rest of the world. The replacement of Fidel Castro with his brother Raúl hasn't helped the plight of the press in Cuba at all. Twenty-four journalists are in jail in Cuba, 19 have been there since a crackdown on media and activists in 2003. They exist in declining health in disgusting, dangerous prisons.

Outside the Western democracies and a few countries where the press remains essentially free, journalists have to battle their governments to print the truth. The fact that these governments have signed various international freedom of information pacts seems irrelevant. A U.N. resolution four years ago telling governments to provide protection for journalists in combat zone has been ignored. Governments' own laws don't matter either, they just throw ludicrous charges at journalists they don't like: sedition, defamation, "religious insult," spreading propaganda, causing social unrest, "disrespect for authority" and even possession of drugs in their cells. Perhaps the most imaginative, Cuba created the charge of "pre-criminal danger to society."

### Special Concern: Latin America

Elsewhere in Latin America Hugo Chávez continues his campaign which, according to the Inter-American Press Association, is aimed at shutting down all independent media. Last year he silenced 34 radio stations, two TV stations, and he threatened to shut Globovisión, which is already menaced by six administrative procedures. Globovisión is the only remaining independent TV broad-

caster. The communications minister said he would close 240 radio stations for failing to keep registrations current.

Other new left-wing governments in South America are following the Chávez lead. President Rafael Correa Delgado of Ecuador has replaced the management of two TV stations with his own loyalists and the Telemazonas network faces the possibility of being shut down for 90 days as a result of two current investigations. Correa refers to the press as his greatest enemy and says it is "corrupt" and "destabilizing." While there has been a healthy trend in much of Latin America to move slander and libel cases from criminal to civil courts, Ecuador continues to send journalists to jail for "insult."

Another new left-wing president, Evo Morales Ayma of Bolivia, has also declared the press to be his enemy. According to the Bolivian Asociación Nacional de Prensa, in the 14 months ending last October there were 123 physical attacks on journalists and 164 verbal attacks. The Inter-American Press Association identified the attackers in many cases as police officers. Journalists performing their duties have been kidnapped, beaten, and dragged to police stations. One was murdered.

Being a foreign correspondent is not the glamour job it once was, or at least was assumed to be. Foreign correspondents from Western countries can no longer look forward to safe careers in places like Paris, London and Madrid. David Rohde of *The New York Times* spent more than seven months in captivity in Afghanistan before escaping last June.

In the last days of 2009 Michelle Lang of *The Calgary Herald* and Canwest News Service was killed and two French TV newsmen were kidnapped along with their three Afghan assistants. However, the majority of journalists murdered, attacked, jailed, suppressed, and exiled were citizens of the countries where they were victims. The wonder is that in the face of such dangers, they keep trying to get the news out.



**Alberto Federico Ravell, executive director of Venezuela's television news network Globovisión.**

*Jeremy Main is on the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee. You can post comments in response to this and other articles at [www.opcofamerica.org](http://www.opcofamerica.org).*



(Continued From Page 9)

in Guilford, Connecticut. He died while holding one of his iconic shaken martinis, his wife **Mairi** said. *Friendly Fire* told the story of the death of Michael Eugene Mullen, a draftee from Iowa who was killed in 1970 by shrapnel from an artillery shell fired by his fellow troops. Started as a *New Yorker* article, the book chronicled the doubts of Mullen's parents about the Army's official account of the death. The author's wife said, "He was very proud of the fact that he exposed the friendly fire issue, and the fact that the government was lying to people who were as very patriotic as the Mullens were."

Courtlandt Dixon Barnes Bryan wrote novels and non-fiction books, contributed articles to magazines, reviewed books and taught writing at Colorado State University and the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop. In its obituary, *The New York Times* wrote, "Mr. Bryan was a smoker, a drinker and an avid and gifted conversationalist." His son, **St. George Bryan**, said his father was cremated and his remains stored in martini shakers until his memorial service.

**William J. Lederer**, 97, co-author of *The Ugly American*, died of respiratory failure in Baltimore last December 5. His family delayed reporting his death until mid-January pending arrangements for a military funeral and burial in Arlington National Cemetery in February. A career U.S. Navy officer, Lederer and **Eugene Burdick**, a political science professor at the University of California Berkeley, based *The Ugly American* on their own experiences in Asia. The 1958 novel portrayed American diplomats in Southeast Asia as arrogant in dealing with the local population and warned that the United States was losing influence in the region to Communist China and the Soviet Union.

Lederer dropped out of high school and enlisted in the Navy in 1930 and passed the entrance examination for the U.S. Naval Academy from which he graduated in 1936. He served on a river gunboat in China, was a ship's navigator in the 1943 Allied invasion of Sicily, and spent later years as a public relations officer in the Pentagon and then while a captain in Hawaii as special assistant to Admiral Felix Stump, Pacific commander-in-chief. Lederer wrote several other

books before and after retiring from the Navy and was Far East correspondent for *Reader's Digest*.

Lederer was said to be the only person with a stammer to graduate from the Naval Academy. At a news conference given by Admiral Stump and attended by the "People" columnist, Lederer interrupted Stump's answer and, stammering, said in a loud voice, "Admiral, you don't want to say that."

**Albert Stamp**, 73, general manager of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan from 1988 to 1996, died November 10 in Hakone, Japan, where he lived alone. In October, Stamp had been found unconscious in his home. He spent nearly three months in a hospital before returning home in early November. Stamp fell in love with Japan when he served there with the U.S. Army. After graduating from Georgetown University and earning a master's degree at Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration, Stamp returned to Japan. Before joining the Correspondents Club he taught English at Japan Airlines and Saga University, joined food manufacturer Kikkoman and opened two Tokyo restaurants.

**Vivienne Kenrick**, 89, for 44 years a columnist for the English-language *Japan Times* in Tokyo, died of pneumonia in Tokyo November 1. Born in London, she moved to Tokyo in 1948 with her busi-

## OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB FOUNDATION

**Annual Scholarship Luncheon**  
**Friday, February 19, 2010**

**Keynote Speaker**  
**Lionel Barber**  
Editor  
*The Financial Times*



Grand Ballroom, Yale Club  
50 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York City

**Reception: 11:30 a.m.**  
**Luncheon: Noon to 2 p.m.**

Tables: Benefactor \$8,000, Patron \$5,000, Friend \$2,000; tickets for OPC Members \$75 and non-members \$100

Contact: Jane Reilly at  
foundation@opcofamerica.org  
201-493-9087

nessman husband and their two daughters. She covered the equestrian events for AP during the 1964 Tokyo and the 1968 Mexico City Olympics. Kenrick wrote several books, was an editor of *Fodor's Guide to Japan*, freelanced for magazines and newspapers, and was elected an honorary lifetime member of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan for her Club committee work.

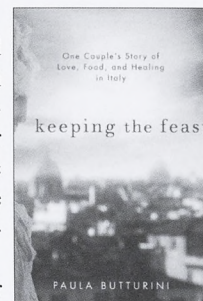
### New Books: (Continued From Page 12)

*Velvet Revolution*. Five weeks later, John was shot and nearly killed by a sniper in Timisoara, Romania during the fighting to overthrow the Communist regime.

Suffering from post-traumatic stress after seven operations and an attack of hepatitis B, John began to slide into severe depression that no amount of therapy or medication was able to treat. The couple returned to Rome in 1992, hoping that the Italian food and their friends which had brought them together would work their magic once again. Paula knew something about depression because she had grown up in the 1950s with a mother who suffered from postpartum psychosis.

When John began to descend into depression, Paula's mother relapsed into severe depression and committed suicide. Paula writes about her life with John in *Keeping the Feast: One Couple's Story of Love, Food, and Healing in Italy* [New York: Riverhead Books].

**Giulia Melucci**, author of *I Loved, I Lost, I Made Spaghetti*, wrote in a blurb, "Paula Butturini writes magnificently of the pleasures of eating and how food can be a rare refuge from suffering."



— by Al Kaff



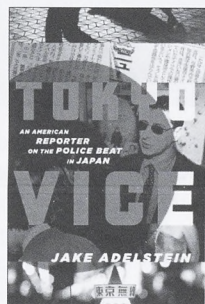
# New Books

## ASIA

**"THE YAKUZA ARE OUTSIDERS** in Japanese society, and perhaps being a fellow outsider gave us a weird kind of bond." That is what **Jake Adelstein** said in an interview published by Amazon.com. Adelstein also is an outsider. He investigated the *yakuza*, Japan's organized crime gangs whose members are vividly tattooed and who thrive on extortion, racketeering, prostitution and gambling. Adelstein writes about them in *Tokyo Vice* [New York: Knopf Doubleday].

He studied Zen Buddhism and karate while in high school in Missouri, moved to Japan, lived and meditated in a Buddhist temple for three years, became fluent in Japanese, taught English, worked as a Swedish masseur and became a crime reporter for the *Yomiuri* Japan's largest-circulated newspaper.

"I think everyone will take away something different from the book," Adelstein continued in the interview. "I



suppose you can learn a lot about how journalism works in Japan, how the police work, and how the yakuza work. I would also hope that people take away from the book an understanding of some of the things I really like about Japan and the Japanese, things like reciprocity, honor, loyalty, and stoic suffering. I think in Japan, I learned how important it is to keep your word, to never forget your debts — and not just the financial ones — and to make repayment in due course. Perhaps that's what honor is all about."

## THE FAT CATS

I did not make Hong Kong a world-class city. Hong Kong became an economic powerhouse through the sweat and struggle of impoverished workers who toiled long hours for low wages, dreaming of the next opportunity. That's how **Feng Chi-shun**, a medical scientist who grew up amid Hong Kong's poverty, sees his hometown. He describes his early life in *Diamond Hill: Memories of growing up in a Hong Kong squatter village* [Hong Kong: Blacksmith Books].

Son of a school teacher in a middle-class family, Feng grew up in the 1950s on Diamond Hill in Kowloon in one of the poorest and most backward of Hong Kong's villages. His mischievous adolescence included gambling, beer drinking, snooker, billiards and watching heroin



addiction and sex shows in the Walled City. The name of the hill seems like a sick joke to the thousands of people struggling there to survive. There are no diamonds on the hill, and in Chinese the word diamond can mean the excavation of stones or slate.

In 1966 at age 19, Feng left Diamond Hill to study at the University of Hong Kong. He attended medical school in Hong Kong, became a pathologist, published nearly 100 articles on his medical research and is a columnist for the English-language *South China Morning Post*, a Hong Kong newspaper. Feng is a longtime member of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong.

## EUROPE

**"EATING TOGETHER NIGHT** after night, with good friends, good food and endless chatter, made both of us feel at home, and comfortable with each other." That is **Paula Butturini** describing how she and **John Tagliabue** met in Rome in 1985, fell in love and married four years later. Paula, 34 when they met, was a UPI correspondent and John, 43, was a *New York Times* correspondent with two children from an earlier marriage.

Shortly after Paula and John's wedding and when they had been transferred to Warsaw, tragedy struck twice. Paula was beaten unconscious in Prague by Czechoslovak police at the start of the

(Continued on Page 11)

**Coming Up...**

**OPC Book Night**  
**Enemies of the People**  
by Kati Marton  
February 17, 6 p.m.  
Club Quarters

**OPC Foundation**  
**Scholarship Luncheon**  
February 19  
See page 11 for details.

Overseas Press Club of America  
40 West 45 Street  
New York, NY 10036 USA